

[AUTOMOTIVE SIDE IMPACT PROTECTION]

Abstract

An automotive side impact assembly 10 is provided. The automotive side impact assembly 10 includes a door assembly 18 having a door body portion 20 and a window opening portion 22. The door body portion 20 and said window opening portion 22 meet to form a beltline 24. A window assembly 26 is positioned within the window opening portion 22 and extends into the door body portion 20 when in a window closed condition 28. An automotive seat assembly 12 is positioned adjacent said door assembly 18. A side-impact air bag assembly 32 is positioned within the automobile 14 such that the side air-bag 32 is deployed between the door assembly 18 and the automotive seat 12. The side-impact air bag assembly 32 has a deployed condition in which a side air-bag 32 is deployed during a collision. A laminate assembly 40 is in communication with the window assembly 26 and has an upper laminate portion 42 extending above the beltline 24 into the window opening portion 22 when the window assembly 26 is in the window closed condition 28. The laminate assembly 40 has a

lower laminate portion 44 extending below the beltline 24 into the door body portion 20 when the window assembly 26 is in the window closed position 28. The laminate assembly 40 provides structural rigidity to the window assembly 26 such that the side airbag 32 is supported during deployment.